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INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 001257

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/09/2016

TAGS: PHUM PREL UNGA CU IV

SUBJECT: COTE D'IVOIRE: DEMARCHE RE U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS WITH UN CUBA EMBARGO RES.

REF: A. A) SECSTATE 184156
 1B. B) SECSTATE 182099

Classified By: DepPolEconCouns EMassinga, Reasons 1.4 (b,d)

11. (C) On November 8, Econ Chief delivered relevant talking points from reftels to Ambassador Bernard TANOH BOUTCHOUË, Director of the Office of United Nations and Specialized Institutions Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

12. (C) Speaking frankly, and drawing upon his eight years of experience in Cote d'Ivoire's permanent mission to the UN in NY, TANOH said the resolution condemning the U.S. for our long-standing embargo would likely pass. Pressed concerning the need to inject balance into the resolution via the Australian amendment or some similar vehicle and to abstain should such a balancing amendment be rejected, TANOH promised to consider the matter in light of the aid the U.S. has rendered Cote d'Ivoire diplomatically during its prolonged crisis.

Hooks